

United States Consulate General
1075 West Pender Street
Vancouver, Canada

Appointments are required for **ALL** applicants who are applying in person for any type of visa in Vancouver. Most visas are processed the same day by 3:00 p.m.

1. MAKE AN APPOINTMENT

You may make an appointment using one of the following methods:

- www.nvars.com (flat rate \$10.00 CDN)
- Calling from Canada 1-900-451-2778 (\$2.00 CDN /minute)
- Calling from U.S.A 1-900-443-3131 (\$1.65 USD / minute)
- Credit Card 1-888-840-0032 (\$1.50 CDN/min)

The 900 numbers listed may be blocked from hotels, offices, and pay phones. The credit card line is more widely accessible.

2. APPLICATION FORM

- Complete both sides of the attached DS-156 application form for each applicant.
- Print all answers clearly.
- Do not leave any questions blank as incomplete forms will not be processed. Print N/A if the item is not applicable.
- If several family members travel on a single passport, complete a separate application for each traveler including infants.
- Glue to the front of the application form a passport type photo measuring 1 ½ x 1 ½ inches, with a light or white background, taken within the past 6 months for each applicant.
- Sign and date the application form.

Note: *You are personally responsible for your answers. Providing false information on a visa application is grounds for permanent exclusion from the United States.*

3. REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION

- A valid passport. The passport should be valid for at least 6 months past your intended stay in the United States. Applicant's name in the passport must be in Latin Letters (English). Damaged, invalid or altered passports will not be accepted.
- Proof of status in CANADA (original IMM-1000) or original Canadian student, employment, or visitor authorization.
- Any previous passports containing an U.S. VISA (a photocopy of the visa page is NOT sufficient).
- Most applicants must be able to show strong commitments to a home outside the U.S. Therefore, you should submit evidence of economic and social ties to your home country and document the nature or purpose of your trip. As well as:
 - For business or pleasure trips, a letter from your employer documenting your employment.
 - For students in Canada, a letter from your school.
 - For students planning to study in the U.S., a completed Form I-20 and proof of funds to cover tuition and expenses.
 - For exchange visitors, a completed Form IAP-66.
 - For applicants for "H", "L", "O", "P" and "Q" visas, original form I-797 approval notice and a copy of the I-129 package.

Note: *A personal appearance at the Vancouver consular section may be required so all applicants, regardless of age, must be present in the consular district at the time of the appointment.*

4. FEES

- A \$100.00 non-refundable **application fee** is required for every applicant. The fee is payable only in U.S. funds and in **EXACT CHANGE**.
- There may be a separate **reciprocity fee** charged for your approved visa, depending on your nationality, place of residence and type of visa being issued. For further details please inquire with the telephone numbers provided.

Note: If using the mail system, please provide a certified cheque or money order payable to the "U.S. Consulate General" for all fees.

Applications that fail to meet the above requirements will not be accepted. In all cases, the consul may request additional information or documentation before making a final decision on your application.

Your application may be refused or your appointment may be cancelled due to unforeseen circumstances. DO NOT make irrevocable travel plans prior to obtaining a visa.

VISAS BY MAIL

1. Applications will be accepted by mail if you are a landed immigrant NOT from a British Commonwealth Country (see reverse for list of countries).
2. Mail-in applicants must demonstrate strong social and economic ties to Canada. Therefore, mail-in applications are only recommended for landed immigrants who have been residing in Canada for more than six months.
3. Complete your application in accordance with the instructions in *Section (2)*.
4. **Submit the evidence** requested in *Section (3)*.
5. Fees: See **FEES Section (4)**.
6. Mail your completed application, your passport and supporting documents along with a **PRE-PAID, SELF-ADDRESSED ENVELOPE**, by registered mail to:

Visa Unit, U.S. Consulate General
1095 West Pender Street
Vancouver, British Columbia
V6E 2M6

7. **Allow up to one month** for processing your application. Your passport will be returned to you in the stamped, self-addressed envelope you provide. It is recommended to use registered mail service available at the post office. If you fail to provide a stamped, self-addressed envelope, your visa application will be subject to considerable delay. It is your responsibility to send your application to the Consulate General far enough in advance for processing and mailing.
8. Please do not inquire about your application until one month has passed. Should a personal appearance be required, you will be notified.
9. The Consulate General assumes no responsibility for passports or documents sent by mail.

A VISA IS NOT A GUARANTEE OF ENTRY INTO THE UNITED STATES

An Immigration and Naturalization Service officer at the port of entry to the United States determines whether or not a person qualifies under the law to enter the United States.

Please see Additional Information on Reverse

DO YOU NEED A VISA?

If you are a Canadian Citizen or a Landed Immigrant holding citizenship from one of the following British Commonwealth Countries, **you do not need a visa**. You must apply for permission to enter the United States at the Port of Entry with U.S. Immigration.

| | | |
|-------------------|-------------------------|-------------------|
| ANTIGUA & BARBUDA | JAMAICA | SEYCHELLES |
| AUSTRALIA | KENYA | SIERRA LEONE |
| BAHAMAS | KIRIBATI | SINGAPORE |
| BANGLADESH | LESOTHO | SOLOMON ISLANDS |
| BARBADOS | MALAWI | SRI LANKA |
| BELIZE | MALAYSIA | S. AFRICA |
| BOTSWANA | MALDIVES | SWAZILAND |
| BRUNEI | MALTA | TANZANIA |
| CAMEROON | MAURITIUS | TONGA |
| CYPRUS | NAMIBIA | TUVALU |
| DOMINICA | NAURU | TRINIDAD & TOBAGO |
| FIJI | NIGERIA | UGANDA |
| GAMBIA | NEW ZEALAND | UNITED KINGDOM |
| GHANA | PAKISTAN | VANUATU |
| GRENADA | PAPUA NEW GUINEA | WESTERN SAMOA |
| GUYANA | ST. CHRISTOPHER & NEVIS | ZAMBIA |
| INDIA | ST. LUCIA | ZIMBABWE |
| IRELAND | ST. VINCENT/GRENADINES | |

The **VISA WAIVER PROGRAM** allows many citizens of designated countries to apply for admission to the United States as visitors without first obtaining nonimmigrant visas at United States Embassies or Consulates. If visiting for pleasure, transit or business, and if in possession of return passage to your country of residence, you may be admitted to visit for less than 90 days. The countries are:

| | | |
|-----------|---------------|----------------|
| ANDORRA | IRELAND | PORTUGAL |
| AUSTRALIA | ITALY | SAN MARINO |
| AUSTRIA | JAPAN | SINGAPORE |
| BELGIUM | LIECHTENSTEIN | SLOVENIA |
| BRUNEI | LUXEMBOURG | SPAIN |
| DENMARK | MONACO | SWEDEN |
| FINLAND | NETHERLANDS | SWITZERLAND |
| FRANCE | NEW ZEALAND | UNITED KINGDOM |
| GERMANY | NORWAY | URUGUAY |
| ICELAND | | |

HOLIDAY NOTICE

Consular offices are closed on Canadian and U.S. holidays. If a Canadian holiday falls on a Saturday, the consular office will be closed the proceeding Friday. If a holiday falls on a Sunday, the consular office will be closed the following Monday. We suggest that you do not apply the day after a holiday, as it is always busier than usual. The following are American holidays:

| | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| January 1 | • New Year's Day |
| Third Monday of January | • Martin Luther King's Birthday |
| Third Monday of February | • Presidents' Day |
| Last Monday of May | • Memorial Day |
| July 4 | • Independence Day |
| Second Monday of October | • Columbus Day |
| November 11 | • Veterans' Day |
| Fourth Thursday of November | • Thanksgiving Day |
| December 25 | • Christmas Day |

QUESTIONS?

If you have any questions pertaining to any of this information please phone 1-900-451-2778 from Canada or 1-900-443-3131 from the United States (per minute toll charges will apply). You may also visit the following websites for additional information:

- www.travel.state.gov
- www.usembassycanada.gov